2013 has been another exciting year for Castletown with memorable achievements and successes. We look back with pride at numerous highlights such as the Music Festival successes, Science week, TOMS participation, Numero wins, sporting and carnival events, as examples of activities that have enriched the lives of our students and enhanced their learning.

Following extensive reflections, discussions and agreement from all sections of our school community during 2013, the school vision has now been revisited to reflect our 21st Century ideals and values of “Inspire, Educate, Succeed”.

Our school has a strong emphasis on striving for personal best and the holistic development of the child. This is central to our vision statement and is reinforced through the many tailored teaching and learning programs and opportunities offered to develop active and engaged students.

- We have witnessed high standards of student achievement in the academic, sporting, cultural and social arenas throughout the year.
- We strive to build on these student strengths and develop their confidence and successes.
- A strong sense of community and quality relationships permeates through the learning environment.
- Children are encouraged to understand the responsibilities to their school and wider community through respecting and practising the values and virtues we promote and share.

“We strive to instil in them a sense of service and responsibilities to others.”

Our teachers build positive relationships with students and have high expectations of their overall development and progress. Our teachers aim to inspire in our students a love of learning.

This year our teachers have been challenged and motivated through the Teacher Development School project to present leading edge professional opportunities to other schools and showcase their educational practices and ideas with network schools.

Working as a committed, highly dedicated team of professionals, our staff seeks out best practice and better ways of improving our student outcomes. I take this opportunity of thanking all our wonderful Castletown teachers and in particular our Associate Principals Mrs Lesley Mather and Mr Laurie Palmer for their leadership and teamwork.

We are proud to have a NEITA (National Excellence in teaching Award) teacher Mrs Wendy Weckert nominated by our community, being selected in the top 38 teachers across Australia. The competitive field for this prestigious award began with some 1500 teachers.

Our parent and community partnership in education is vital and dynamic, with support and assistance to the school on many fronts. Assemblies are well attended. Parent committees are enthusiastic, very hardworking and totally dedicated to supporting the needs of our students. Parents have many opportunities to be involved in the daily life of the school through participation in direct activities and with the sharing of the ethos and culture of the school. The School Council and P & C, and the Early Childhood Committee continue to contribute significantly in their support for our school. I acknowledge the work of these committees and particularly thank Treena Cook, P & C President, Mr Les Crawley, Council Chairperson and Mrs Mel Amon, Early Childhood President for their strong dedicated support for the school.

A chain is only as strong as its links and in our case we are blessed to have very strong links in our educational chain.

Congratulations Castletown students, staff and community on your commendable efforts and successes in the educational journey of 2013.

Pauline Grewar
Principal.
CASTLETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Castletown PS is a Level 5 Public School situated in the pristine seaside town of Esperance, 720 km south east of Perth. The agricultural and mining hinterland, with its historical links to the goldfields, brings diversity to the student population. Opened in 1966 with 139 students, the school has expanded to 535 students from Kindergarten to year 7. The socio-economic index is in the medium range; most students are typically urban with the remainder travelling by bus from the hinterland. Attendance is within the state average.

A mix of experienced and young staff share their multiple talents to ensure high level educational opportunities for students. They are firmly committed to educational excellence and developing quality relationships with students and parents.

Castletown provides creative, stimulating programs suited to the diversity of students, ranging from students with disabilities through to gifted and talented in an inclusive environment. The whole school literacy and numeracy focus and the priority in science strongly support the needs of our students. Community and school partnerships have been developed with shared beliefs and values being at the core of their success.

VALUE ADDING

Throughout the year a number of programs and initiatives have added value to student achievements across the school’s learning priorities. This is also reflected through the Virtues Program implemented across all year levels to promote and further develop core values and virtues into our school community.

**English**
- Literacy Bags (K-2).
- Getting It Right Literacy Specialist Teacher (GiRL) – Building the capacity of staff in literacy.
- Reading In Bed Is Terrific (R.I.B.I.T).
- Early Childhood Speech Program (K-2).
- Literacy Books.
- Differentiated programs for Students at Educational Risk.
- Whole school literacy program. Developing a whole school shared belief in literacy across all year levels.

**Maths**
- Numero Challenges within school and across the district.
- Differentiated programs for Students at Educational Risk.
- Whole school numeracy program. Developing a whole school shared belief in numeracy across all year levels.

**Science**
- Professional Development with consultant using Primary Connections.
- Literacy and science, collection of literacy books and materials.
- Programs that are inclusive of all students.
- Primary Connections Science program that provides development of scientific skills, knowledge and literacy through a ‘hands on’ approach.
INFORMATION ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

NAPLAN
Year 3, 5 and 7 students participated in The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The results provide an important measure of how students from Castletown are performing in literacy and numeracy and enable comparisons against similar schools (Like Schools). The graphs below show a longitudinal summary of average scores.

Numeracy

Reading

Writing
Overall results demonstrate some variations. The Year 7 cohort has performed as expected, with above expectations in writing and spelling compared to like schools and W.A. Public Schools.
The Year 5 cohort is below expectation in three areas, numeracy, reading and grammar and punctuation, yet they have exceeded expectation in writing when compared with like schools.
The Year 3 cohort have performed as expected compared with like schools in all subjects except in numeracy and grammar and punctuation which has indicated a deficiency.

Student progress and achievement as compared to like schools from 2011- 2013 has presented an interesting picture with the Year 5-7 cohort making sound gains, progress and expectations over the two year period, whilst the Year 3-5 cohort has been less impressive and variable in results. They have made low progress and achievement in numeracy, low progress and high achievement in reading; have gains in writing with high achievement and progress and also with spelling. Grammar and punctuation demonstrate low achievement, but higher progress.

Overall, the results would indicate strongly that maths will need to become a priority in 2014 with a focus on reading and grammar and punctuation. Reasons for the decline in maths results are not clear. Teachers have had extensive professional development in First Steps and as a National Partnership school in 2010 and 2011 with a focus on literacy and numeracy. Whole school planning in maths, including close examination of teaching and learning strategies, consistent monitoring and timely reviewing of student progress, needs consideration in the reviewing process.
WAMSE Science 2013

In 2013 Year 5 & 7 students were tested in Science using the Western Australian Monitoring Standards in Education (WAMSE). Both Yr 5 and Yr 7 students performed more poorly in the bottom 20%. We are maintaining our comparative percentages in the Top 20% of students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Year 5 Science</th>
<th>Like Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Like Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top 20%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle 60%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottom 20%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Year 7 Science</th>
<th>Like Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Like Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top 20%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle 60%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottom 20%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Attendance

ATTENDANCE OVERALL 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Like Schools</th>
<th>WA Public Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>92.7%</td>
<td>92.7%</td>
<td>92.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>92.5%</td>
<td>92.2%</td>
<td>92.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>93.8%</td>
<td>92.6%</td>
<td>92.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Castletown Primary School attendance is comparable to ‘Like Schools’ and state average.

YEAR 1 to YEAR 7 CASTLETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Y01</th>
<th>Y02</th>
<th>Y03</th>
<th>Y04</th>
<th>Y05</th>
<th>Y06</th>
<th>Y07</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA Public Schools 2013</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Across year levels, the attendance rate has remained stable and similar to state percentages.
PRIORITYES for 2014

1. READING
   Whole school literacy will continue to be a priority in 2014 with the focus on reading.

2. MATHS
   Numeracy will continue as a priority in 2014

PROGRESS ON PRIORITIES

Castletown has again been selected as a Teacher Development School for 2014 and 2015. As a Teacher Development School in 2012/2013 in English, our focus with school planning in curriculum has been on English. 2014 and 2015 will expand English with Humanities, thereby challenging our teachers and other schools to delve further into the Australian Curriculum and work with cross curricular studies and learning area links in the Humanities.

Our aims will be to develop professional learning opportunities for our own staff and staff from networks across the district in aspects of English/Humanities in the Australian Curriculum and will include scope and sequence and achievement levels. We will be sharing with our own staff and other networks, strategies and resources to support teachers in the improvement of knowledge and teaching practices.

Maths becomes a priority area in 2014 due to the lower than expected results in NAPLAN in years 3 and 5, and the need for improvements in whole school planning. Targets will be clearly defined from collated evidence from across the school and will be monitored and timely reviewed. Whole school approaches to numeracy will be reviewed.

Maths Priority 2013

As for 2012, the numeracy priority has focussed on providing students with essential maths skills and knowledge to develop their numeracy capacity, assisted them to employ maths strategies to make informed decisions and solve problems. All teaching and learning planning is linked to whole school planning and the Department of Education’s strategic plans and focus in maths. In particular, building key understandings and the language of maths in the Early Childhood Years has been a focus. Administering the On Line Assessment in the Pre-Primary year has enabled teachers to more accurately target areas of student understandings and reinforce concepts and skills. We will be working towards developing automaticity to basic number facts, particularly in the middle and junior school.

Numeracy blocks of 70 minutes per day have been implemented across the year levels to increase the level of effectiveness of teaching and learning outcomes.

In the upper grades, strengthened skills and practice in Numero has resulted in three winning teams from Castletown in a district competition. The winning team competed in Perth in November giving a “star performance”.

Focus for 2014 will be re-emphasising the key concepts from First Steps, place value, basic number facts, (mental maths) problem solving, and the language of maths.

The Australian Maths Competition for the senior grades again demonstrated high level student talents and achievements with their results.

Professional learning (Dr Paul Swann) for Junior and ECE teachers provided opportunity for reinforcing instructional strategies and effective use of the literacy blocks and lesson planning.

A bank of Literature Maths books have been utilised in integrated maths and literacy.

Literacy and Numeracy Week saw students and teachers sharing their maths games and concepts with parents. Buddy classes for some maths activities continue to challenge and develop students through effective peer teaching.

Maths Bags have been extended to year 3. Maths Bags are used for home partnering children and parents to explore a range of maths activities and concepts.
Overall, with our embedded strategies for teaching and learning maths, our investment in additional resources for maths and our high quality teaching will lead to improved standards across the school in maths.

**TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS**

All teaching staff meet the professional requirements to teach in Western Australian public schools and can be found on the public register of teachers at the *Teacher Registration Board of Western Australian*.

**PARENT, STUDENT and TEACHER SATISFACTION - 2013**

During 2013 information was gathered from the school community including parents, teachers and students by administering a “Surveying the School Community” instrument produced by The Department of Education.

Parents, teachers and students were invited to access the survey on line, this offer being taken up by students in the upper grades 6/7, staff and some parents. Hard copies were available to parents as an option. The survey explored five operational issues to include school environment, quality of teaching, communication, curriculum outcomes and responsiveness and working relationships.

An interesting fact from the data collected was the parent, staff and student perceptions were very similar with a range of variation in perceptions and comparative graphs for each question being almost negligible. Compared to previous years, the survey for 2013 was the most positive the school has received.

- Parents were highly supportive and positive about the school. Their accompanying comments reflected the parent perceptions of the school.
- The response to the survey was approximately 30% of the school parent community.
- 65 students in years 6/7 responded to the survey and had positive comments to make about their school.
- Staff were generally unified in what they perceived as strengths in the school.

A sample of Parent Comments:

**Aspects I like about this school.**

- The school’s pride and encouragement for students to achieve their best. The virtue’s programme, instilling what is really important within a school environment.
- My child’s teacher.
- All smiles on everyone’s faces.
- Friendliness.
- The way new students are made to feel welcomed into the school community.
- The commitment teachers have to teaching and the safe, happy environment for children to learn.
- Thank you, my child has improved tenfold in their studies since commencing at Castletown. All teachers do a fantastic job!

The positive list is lengthy.

- Improvement aspects mentioned were related to parking issues and bus zones and more emphasis on the 3 “R’s.”
## Highlights of Our School

2013 has been a year of inspirational education and successes, aligned with the school’s new vision statement and the values that it underpins. The vision has finally evolved after many months of deliberation, discussion, and reflection by staff, students and parents on “what it is that Castletown represents.”

Our achievements are the actions of “Inspire, Educate, Succeed.” Students and parents alike have continued to contribute to, and engage in the many rich and diverse educational activities and challenges offered throughout the year.

With students and teachers, we have seen champions of excellence abound in our school. We have witnessed endeavour, enthusiasm and diligence from students and teachers in the classrooms on a daily basis. Understanding, sharing, caring, respect, inclusivity and the virtues we promote, characterise our school, contributing to the culture.

We have seen the “high flyers”, the outstanding performers, and a wide spectrum of students who endeavour to strive to their potential, all contributing to the overall success of the school.

Here are some of the highlights that show case our students and our teachers.

### Academic Successes

Numero teams winning first, second and third places in the district competition. Numero Winning Team travelling to Perth in November to compete against winning schools in Perth and across the state.

### TOMS Teams

Competing at a high level in the district competition in Social Sciences and in Literacy.

### The Arts

Music Festival results were again outstanding in all sections. Over 250 children performed at the Esperance Annual Music Festival in August distinguishing themselves with outstanding marks in choirs and percussion items. The adjudicator was very impressed with the high standard of music from our school.

Assemblies have seen some outstanding performances in drama, music, and acting from our students over the year. We have seen the growing confidence and maturity of the arts as children have opportunity to show case their talents and skills.

Esperance and Districts Annual Show was again a venue to display a rich array and variety of student work across all grades, all received deserving commendation and comments.

### Play Ground Equipment

for the oval finally in place after much planning and preparation, gave our children an improved impetus and incentive to increase their skills in physical education. With $17000 of circuit equipment for the oval, the children have ample opportunity to build and strengthen their skills.

### Reading in Focus

Keeping reading in focus and encouraging students to read has been a successful Castletown achievement with record numbers of RIBIT (Reading in Bed is Terrific) readers receiving book awards for their efforts. In the early years, “Book Bags” introduce our little ones to four books per week to encourage curiosity and stimulation in reading.
ICT
Moving into the 21st Century expectations with the Web, and being given opportunity for all students to use ICT tools of learning and discovery.

“Take the Challenge” with Mrs Tolman’s year 3 class winning coveted sports prizes for their efforts in their improvements in healthy eating and physical education, was a model for the school with children’s improved healthy lifestyles.

Year 6 and Year 7 Camps.
This year 2 camps in the senior school generated much interest and excitement for over 120 children, becoming the highlight of these children’s school year according to the verbal and written feedback we gathered.

National Science Week saw the school go into scientific fervour trying to grow the largest plant with restricted variables and conditions. Thanks to Ms Mather, students “grew” their curiosity and investigation skills at a rapid speed, and had fun at the same time.

Other exciting science events added to the highlights of the year such as “Electricity and Lightning, a community evening to remember with Dr Peter Eastwell, Director of “Science Time Education,” creating a “Shocking Night Out” for the family.

WA Day Assembly with special guest and speaker our local MLA Dr Graham Jacobs, reminded us of our early history and pre-European settlement and the progress we, as a State, have made since the beginnings of the first settlement in W.A.

Carnivals
The Swimming Carnival was a resounding success, with enthusiasm and cheering almost lifting the roof off the swimming pool.

Parents Open Night was attended by the largest crowd of parents yet, to see the learning journeys of their students and to admire their beautiful work.

PEAC
Students reaching further into the scientific world with their challenges and courses in science.

We have A NEITA teacher nominated by the community, Mrs Wendy Weckert, who won state level from 1500 entrants. Well deserved for outstanding years of dedicated service to our children! Mrs Weckert was presented with a handsome plaque in recognition of her excellence in teaching at a special assembly by the chair of our School Council, Mr Les Crawley, in November.

NAIDOC WEEK
Special guest Elder Sonny Graham was guest speaker at the Assembly, engaging the audience with an Esperance dreamtime story of “The Eagle and the Hawk” a story with a moral of no bullying, and being kind to one another. Several classes visited WONGUTHA CAPS School as guests, furthering our relationships with Aboriginal students. Children enjoyed Aboriginal foods and culture with the host school for the day.

2013 has been an exciting and productive year. Well done to everyone.
## Financial Summary as at 31 December 2013

### Revenue - Cash

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Voluntary Contributions</td>
<td>$20,275.00</td>
<td>$19,895.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charges and Fees</td>
<td>$77,424.00</td>
<td>$77,256.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Allowances</td>
<td>-$</td>
<td>-$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P&amp;C Contributions</td>
<td>$44,138.00</td>
<td>$44,137.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising/Donations/Sponsorships</td>
<td>$2,492.00</td>
<td>$2,492.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DoE Grants</td>
<td>$371,385.00</td>
<td>$371,384.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other State Govt Grants</td>
<td>$10,980.00</td>
<td>$10,980.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commonwealth Grants</td>
<td>-$</td>
<td>-$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trading Activities</td>
<td>-$</td>
<td>-$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$22,014.00</td>
<td>$22,008.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$564,313.00</td>
<td>$563,759.08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Revenue Source

- **Voluntary Contributions**: $20,275.00 (Actual: $19,895.00)
- **Charges and Fees**: $77,424.00 (Actual: $77,256.08)
- **Government Allowances**: -$ (Actual: -)
- **P&C Contributions**: $44,138.00 (Actual: $44,137.64)
- **Fundraising/Donations/Sponsorships**: $2,492.00 (Actual: $2,492.09)
- **DoE Grants**: $371,385.00 (Actual: $371,384.86)
- **Other State Govt Grants**: $10,980.00 (Actual: $10,980.00)
- **Commonwealth Govt Grants**: -$ (Actual: -)
- **Trading Activities**: -$ (Actual: -)
- **Other**: $22,014.00 (Actual: $22,008.41)

### Expenditure - Budget vs Actual

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure Purpose</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
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<td>$18,800.48</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leases</td>
<td>-$</td>
<td>-$</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>$52,926.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Repairs/Maintenance/Grounds</td>
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<td>Building Fabric and Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Assets and Resources</td>
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<td>Education Services</td>
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<td>Other Specific Programs</td>
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<td>Trading Activities</td>
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<td>-$</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salary Pool Payments to Central Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfers to Reserves</td>
<td>-$</td>
<td>-$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$691,029.00</td>
<td>$610,026.84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Cash Position

- **General Fund Balance**: $131,498.75
- **Deductible Gift Fund**: -
- **Trust Fund**: -
- **Reserves**: $7,527.76
- **Suspense Accounts**: -
- **Cash Advances**: -
- **Tax Position**: -

### Bank Balance

- **Opening Balance**: $168,874.00 (Actual: $168,874.48)
- **Total Bank Balance**: $733,187.00 (Actual: $732,633.56)
- **Transfers to Reserves**: $563,759.08
- **Fixed Bank Balance**: $131,498.75
- **Suspense Accounts**: -
- **Cash Advances**: -
- **Tax Position**: -
- **General Fund Balance**: $122,606.72
- **Deductible Gift Fund**: -
- **Trust Funds**: $7,527.76
- **Reserves**: $3,418.35
- **Suspense Accounts**: -
- **Cash Advances**: -
- **Tax Position**: -
- **Total Bank Balance**: $131,498.75